Reliable estimate for India for the year 1996 is not available. Therefore the figure 2.68 indicated for 1999-2000 is not strictly comparable with the figures of other countries. Moreover, the unemployment rates prevailing in different countries may not be comparable because the way employment is measured differs from one country to another. Countries also differ in respect of the size of the organised sector *vis-a-vis* unorganised sector and the efficacy of the respective national statistical system that estimates employment.

(b) to (d) In India significant job opportunities are being created in services sector such as Financial Services, Information Technologies and Tourism. In addition, various poverty alleviation and employment generation programmes both in urban and rural areas are in operation which now have been re-designed and restructured to improve their efficacy and impact on the poor. In the present scenario regular additional wage employment alone would not be sufficient. Hence efforts have been made to divert the unemployed to self-employment and to small-scale ventures. Recognising the problem of unemployment, a Task Force under the Chairmanship of Dr. M.S. Ahluwalia, Member, Planning Commission has been set up to go into the details of the employment generation taking place and suggest measures to create at least 100 million jobs in a period of ten years (10 million each year).

Revision of Pay Scale of CSS Assistants

2963. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the "Fast Track Committee" constituted in the aftermath of the Fifth Central Pay Commission Report consisting of three Secretaries (Ministry of Home, Personnel and Expenditure) to rectify a few services anomaly cases while considering the demand of revision of pay scale of DANICS/DANIPS *vis-a-vis* CSS opined that

the scale Rs. 6500—10,500/- (Pre-revised Rs. 2000—3200 is the scale generally operated at Group 'B' non-Gazetted level; and

(b) if so, the reasons for not revising the pay scale of CSS Assstants to Rs. 6500—10,500/- to rectify the position?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING AND DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) Government of India O.M. No. 2/24/97-PIC dated 21.07.1997 constituting the Fast Track Committee, did not include the question of revision of pay scale of Assistants of CSS. The Pay Commission recommended the pre-revised pay scale of Rs. 1640—2900 for Assistants of CSS which is notified as replacement scale of Rs. 5500—9000 as per Ministry of Finance Resolution No. 50(1)/IC/97 dated 30th September, 1997. The pay scale has been granted *w.e.f.* 01.01.1996 with the classification of non-Gazetted Group 'B'.

CSS and IAS Officers in the Deputy Secretary Grade

2964. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Deputy Secretary level of posts belong to CSS cadre with a minimum provision for other Group 'A' services including IAS;

(b) if so, the number of regular CSS officers holding the physical by post in each Ministry/Department *vis-a-vis* IAS deputationists in the grade;

(c) the reasons for marginalising the CSS in the Deputy Secretary grade by disproportionate placement of IAS;

(d) whether the number of Ministry-wise posts held by CSS Officers constitute 25 per cent as laid down by the Department of Personnel and Training;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and